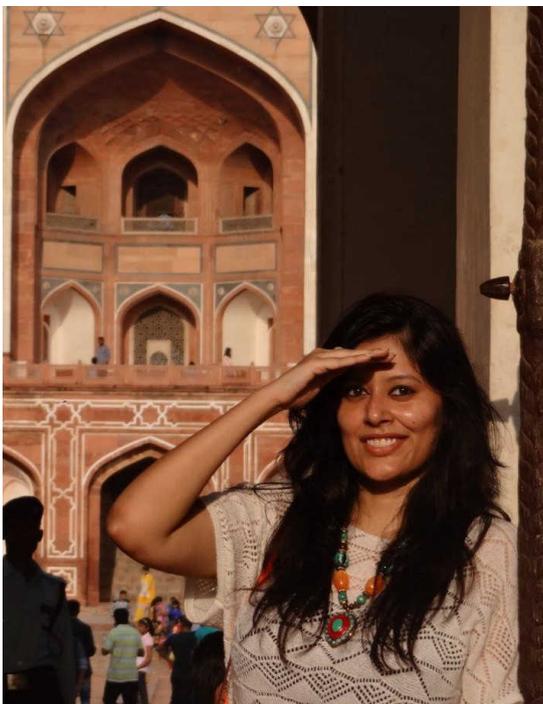


Meet the Moguls

A historical tour through Delhi

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The long, rich and exciting history of Delhi makes itself manifest – and actually, tangible – in a myriad monuments scattered all over the city. Where to start, then, and which of its many stories are the most interesting ones? Debashree knows them all, and will happily share them with you.



Debashree at Humayun's Tomb

The Delhi of the Moguls with Debashree

Debashree narrates in her very own way and style the history of the most important sights of Delhi, and its tight connection with the history of the Moguls. The empire of the Moguls, or Mughal, ruled over the Indian subcontinent between the years 1526 and 1858. The core of the empire lay around the cities of Delhi, Agra and Lahore.

From the time of the Moguls, the two most important sights to be found in Delhi are the Red Fort and the Jamia Masjid. The most famous Mughal emperors were Akbar (1542-1605) and Shah Jahan (1592-1666), during whose

rule the Taj Mahal was built. The history of the Mughal is full of epic battles and great love stories, immense riches and impressive buildings.

Let Debashree channel Scheherazade and enchant you with a thousand stories from the time of the Muslim Mogul emperors. So exciting!

The historical Delhi: Highlights

The following places can be included on the program. Unfortunately it is not possible to visit all the entries in this list in one single tour: the traffic in Delhi is an unruly force of nature and you have to consider the time spent on the road.

A bit of flexibility and spontaneity will also help you have a better, more authentic experience. Be open to the surprising and the unexpected, and look forward for unusual things that catch your eye. Of course, you can also simply tell us which of the following places should be in the program.



Lodhi Gardens

The Lodhi Gardens are a 360,000 m² park in the Indian capital Delhi in which several mausoleums and other buildings dating from the 15th and 16th century can be found. It is a cultivated garden, commonly used by many Indians for walks and picnics. There is more to be seen here than just impressive

historical buildings: you will also learn a lot about daily life in Delhi, and be amused by the secret and meaningful glances and concealed touches shared between the young infatuated local boys and girls.



Humayun's tomb

Near the Lodhi Gardens stands the Humayun's tomb. The construction of Delhi's first Mogul's grave was begun in 1564 after the death of the second Mughal ruler. Haji Begum, Humayun's widow and mother of Akbar (1542-1605), kept a watchful eye on the works and even moved to its vicinity to better manage its construction. It served as a refuge for the last emperor, Bahadur Shah II (1775-1862), whom the British captured here in 1857. Due to its elegant Persian style, the grave is considered one of the most magnificent historical buildings in Delhi.



Qutab Minar

The first buildings of Muslim India are known today as the Qutb Complex. They were built on the ruins of Lal Kot, a fortress built in the 8th century by the Tomara Rajputs and expanded further in the 12th century by the Chauhans. Today one of Delhi's most famous landmarks is found here: the pointed red sandstone tower of the Qutb Minar. A dominating presence amidst the ruins, the over-70-meters-high Qutb Minar is decorated with beautiful ornaments and verses of the Quran. The minaret was built in 1199 as a siege tower in conjunction with the ancient mosque of Qutb-ud-Din Aibak (1150-1210), founder of the Sultanate of Delhi. This marked the beginning of the Muslim supremacy over Delhi and a large part of the Indian subcontinent.



Purana Qila (with Debashree)

Purana Qila is the oldest fortress in Delhi. Within the site, archaeologists discovered the Painted Gray Ware, the oldest known man-made artifact of any

kind in Delhi, so the place is frequently considered a part of Indraprastha, the legendary city mentioned in the Mahabharata. The current structure was begun in the first half of the 16th century by the Mogul ruler Humayun, and further expanded after its expulsion by the Afghan-born King Sher Shah Suri.



Hauz Khas Complex

The Hauz Khas complex in the south of Delhi encompassed a water reservoir, a mosque, a mausoleum and several pavilions around an urbanized medieval village with a story dating back to the 13th century of the Sultanate of Delhi. It was part of Siri, the second medieval city of India in the Sultanate of the Allauddin Dhilli Dynasty. The name Hauz Khas is Farsi in origin and means “royal water tank” or “royal lake”. The reservoir was built by Khilji to supply the inhabitants of Siri with water. In the time of Firuz Shah Tughlaq, the tank was decontaminated. Various religious buildings surround and guard the lake. Today’s Hauz Khas complex also includes a modern area with galleries, boutiques and restaurants.



Eat like a Mughal Emperor

Sightseeing can be as interesting as exhausting, so either between visits or at the end of the tour we will need to recover our energies with a meal in a restaurant. In this case, one that serves typical Mughlai-Food. The cuisine of the Moguls has strongly influenced the North Indian cuisine. It includes both very mild and spicy dishes, with a distinctive aroma and the taste of grated and whole spices. Debashree will take you to a Mughlai restaurant and enjoy lunch (or early dinner) with you.

Prices

For 1 Person / Individual tour: 137 Euro

For 2 People: 81 Euro/Person

For 3 People: 68 Euro/Person

For 4 People: 61 Euro/Person

Services

Taxi rides (private, acclimatized) - pick up at the airport / hotel

Guide (Debashree Chatterjee) - English language

Entrances

Boat ride at Purana Qila

Not included

Restaurant meals

Everything else not mentioned under services

Tips

Duration

Da Debashree nicht hauptberuflich als Guide, sondern als Journalistin arbeitet, umfasst eine Tagestour mit ihr "nur" 6 Stunden. Doch geht Qualität vor Quantität ☐



Diese Tour in einer motorisierten Rickshaw buchen!

Wenn du Lust hast kannst du diese Tour auch in einem *Auto* (so nennt man in Indien die motorisierten Rickshaws) machen. Dann wird es nochmal ein Stückchen günstiger. Allerdings ist die einzige Klimaanlage im *Auto* der Fahrtwind ☐ Dafür aber schlängelst du dich im *Auto* durch die engsten Gassen.

Schreib uns einfach, wenn du Lust auf diese etwas abenteuerlichere Variante hast: daniela@gesar-travel.com

Duration

Since Debashree does not work as a guide, but as a journalist, a day tour implies “only” 6 hours. But quality is better than quantity!



Book this tour in a motorized rickshaw!

If you want, you can take this tour also in a *car* (that's how the motorized Rickshaws are called in India). Then it is of course a bit cheaper. However, the only air-conditioning in the car is the wind on your face. ;-P However, the vehicle will snake its way through the narrowest streets just for you.

Write us if you are looking for something more adventurous: daniela@gesar-travel.com

THE OPINION OF ONE THAT LEARNED TO LOVE DELHI THANKS TO DEBASHREE



To all the dear TRAVELERS: I can really truly RECOMMEND a tour with Debashree! I have been to Delhi several times, and one can't have a more personal and exciting experience than with her! Debashree loves her homeland, her culture and its traditions - and she knows soooo much! She has a lot of exciting and entertaining things to tell - and always in the right "dose". Something that I particularly like: through Debashree, one gets to look "behind the scenes" and can therefore learn very interesting details about the life in India. By the way, thanks to Debashree I became a Delhi lover (and that means something coming from me, for whom Vienna is already too big! ☐

[Ulli Felber](#), Graz

Back to overview: [Delhi with Debashree](#)